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W. H. TALING AND CO., Limited,
8, QUEEN'S-STREET.
LONDON, E.C. 4.

The Sydney Morning Herald

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1901

Born House of Parliament re-assembled.

Is the Legislative Council, the National Convention Bill, and the Morts' Dock and Engineering Company Enabling Bill, were read the third time, and the Leasing Company Electric Lighting Bill was passed.

Is the Legislative Assembly the members of the Premier took the oath of allegiance, and Minister delivered a Ministerial statement.

The first item of business of the Government was said, to introduce a measure of electoral reform, and on Tuesday week the Treasurer would be expected to make his financial statement. The Government had decided to bring forward a bill to Amend the railway Act, and hoped to reach second reading of the Electoral Bill on the following day.

Mr. REID, the newly-elected leader of Opposition, in commenting upon the Premier's statement, said that the Opposition was prepared to co-operate with the Government in passing these useful measures about which they were agreed if the Government would not force them to the one question that must create a crisis.

This ordinary business was then proceeded with. The Finance Committee reported that the Railway Act Amendment Bill was read the third time and taken through committee, and the Electoral Reform Bill was introduced and read the first time.

At a meeting of the Opposition yesterday afternoon it was announced that Sir Henry Parkes would accept the leadership, and Mr. Reid was unanimously elected.

The strike of colliers in the North of Ireland rapidly extending, and the strikers now at 64,000.

DIFFICULTIES have arisen between the mother of the Brazilian Tsar. The Dictator, Mr. da Fonseca has opened a credit of £1,300,000, the purchase of war materials.

A local epidemic of typhoid fever is raging in Dublin.

The financial crisis in Russia is very severe, has even affected the Imperial Bank.

The Alaska Court has confiscated the Carvello ship, which was found to be carrying contraband or infringing the fisheries regulations. The owners of the vessel have appealed against decision, and the *sua curia* case is involved.

The French Government has granted a franchise for the creation of playboys in vineyards of France.

Intelligence from the Cape states that fighting has taken place at Damaraland.

In the Victorian Legislative Assembly yesterday Mr. Munro stated, in reply to a question concerning the speech recently delivered by Lord Cawston, that he regretted that such remarks as might be formed as Lord Kauratunga had doubtless been a friend to the colonies.

An outrage of a political character has been perpetrated in Paris, the words "Long live Anarchy" having been painted in red letters upon the wall of the Italian Embassy.

A serious riot of peasants has taken place at Charkoff and Ekaterinoavil in South Russia, has been suppressed by the military with violence.

It is rumored that Sir H. E. Maxwell, the Junior Lords of the Treasury, will be appointed to succeed the Earl of Onslow as Governor-General of New Zealand after the resignation of Lord Onslow's resignation.

CAPTAIN PARKES, R.A., has been appointed commander of the local forces in New Zealand.

A STRENGTH AT THE HOUSE OF COMMONS. The Junior Lords of the Treasury, will be pointed to succeed the Earl of Onslow as Governor-General of New Zealand after the resignation of Lord Onslow's resignation.

LORD CAMERON is a candidate for the post of Chairman of the London County Council.

ANGERS of the clergy and laity of the Church in the metropolitan and suburban districts of London, have been asked to support the object of which is to enable them to meet the need for counsel and co-operation.

In the Supreme Court yesterday the argument in the appeal of Tyron v. Tyron was heard. Judgment was reserved.

At the Metropolitan Quarter Sessions yesterday Joseph Harley was sentenced to undergo three years' imprisonment, with hard labour, for larceny of \$700 worth of goods. Scolding by him of an illegal device known as the "matrix trick." Albert Smith received a similar punishment for having received stolen goods.

It is reported that Justice Backhouse, the prisoners belonged to the very worst class of criminals, and that they had defrauded a wide field of his life's savings. He made an order for their removal pay £225 to his victims.

At the Water Police Court yesterday a named William Jones was sentenced to two months of imprisonment, of six months for each offence.

Two strikes of shale miners at Hartley Valley, and the latest indications afford little hope of an early settlement. The general manager declined a proposal for conciliation, and advised that the company intended to shut down the mine of the works for an indefinite period.

As the Harwood sugar mill at Grafton is to be closed for the season a number of men will be thrown out of work.

At Gawler, in South Australia, Richard has recovered £255 damages from the Royal Commissioners of that colony in respect of death of his wife, who was killed by a train on April 1st.

A TREASURY has been accepted for the construction of the first section of 50 miles of the Port Pirney railway, Western Australia.

It is reported that owing to the existence numerous alienists, serious rowdism exists among the natives along the Nyngan to Oberlin route. Several assassinations have been committed since police protection is required.

DEAN named Charles Cross was wounded at Hill End yesterday morning, while on his way home by a bullet. His son, who is 14 years of age, shot him dead the fatal shot, thinking it was shooting at a dog.

This shipment of Australian butter sent by the steamship Cusco arrived in excellent condition.

At a special meeting of the Assisted Workmen's Club (Ginger-beer Employees' Union) last night, it was decided to request the Union to send representatives of the Trades and Labor Council to the conference held at the Hotel de Ville for the adoption of the eight-hours system of trade.

A MAN meeting of the tallies on wharfs was yesterday called by employers for a conference in connection of the resolution agreed to by the employees on the previous day.

ALDERMAN JOHN HOBBS has been elected to succeed for the remainder of the current year.

The Victorian territorial revenue for the four months of the financial year shows a deficit of £57,660 on the proportionate estimate.

The Queensland Fisheries Department's receipts for the month of January 1902.

The Customs receipts yesterday amounted to £10,917.

Though a Ministerial statement looked for last evening from the new Government, and was, in fact, owing to the cause of dis-

stand, the paramount interest evening attached to proceedings in connection with the front bench Opposition. The interest of Mr. Drans had, say about one hour, and the Government was discounted by statements which already been made public on this subject. His statement made last night in the House was but a condensation of what had been said in the country before the bill was to be asked for by the Railways and Transport Bill of the late Government. He also to be asked to carry an Electoral Bill, which, though shorter than that of the Government, embodies some of its chief visions. There, in accordance with intentions of the late Government, to establish organs of conciliation and arbitration is to be proceeded with. We are on grounds of a non-party character with respect to which there is a total lack of agreement in the House. But this halcyon state of affairs is not to be of long duration. It is merely a clearing of the decks for the first gun of which will be fired by Mr. Sax's financial statement, to be made on Tuesday at the latest. The House last evening was in pursuance of this programme. The way Contracts Bill was read a second time, and passed through committee, and was taken to introduce the Electoral Bill, which was to be asked for to-day. From the brief statement made by Mr. Barron in introducing it, it appears not impossible that those who desired a short and easily understood measure, might be to be dealt with in detail. Another consideration is, that though the Government has retained the Seats Redistribution Bill of the late Ministry on the paper, it would seem from a statement by Mr. Barron that this measure is not to be proceeded with; that the monstrous voting inequality of the present system, by virtue of some districts enjoy twice as much representation in Parliament as others, which the population, are retained in force.

As we said, the point which seems the greatest interest of the evening is the front Opposition bench. The bill was furnished by the circumstance that Mr. Barron, who had been a Member of the Opposition, expressed his inability to continue in the post, and that the office of a new leader had fallen to Mr. G. H. Ramsay. We do not think it would be impossible at present to know how far Mr. Barron is viewed as marking the disappearance of the political stage of the venerable man who has for many years been the greatest and most conspicuous figure for his successor, he is known to be a member of the necessary and responsible post of leader of the Opposition. The popular goodwill he has always how to acquire will readily credit him visionally with the others. During years or so of his Parliamentary career, he has been the mainstay and one of the most powerful speakers and ready debaters in the House. He is strong in argument, damaging in criticism, unflinching in sarcasm and attack, and yet withal he has never or but rarely been provoked into the bitterness which he has priviled his attacks of bitterness, and hardly ever made an enemy of the subjects of his onslaughts. In the position of leader of the Opposition Mr. Ramsay will have ample scope for his talents, and at the time assume larger responsibilities will now have to speak, not only for self, but for his party, and in looking to that party for loyal support he will be bound to make a more judicious and prudent of his action, and by his moderation and industrious discharge of the many duties entrusted to him.

Whatever the election of Mr. Ramsay as post of leader may mean with respect to certain important points, we can also see that the necessary and urgent financial question soon to be raised will mean it. It means that a strenuous and unflinching resistance is to be offered to the introduction of protection, and that the campaign which the Ministry intend to carry out, will be fought out in Parliament, and, if necessary, over every hustings in the country. Mr. Ramsay lost no time last evening in giving his attitude and that of his party towards the impending financial question. He said that the Ministry's monopoly. While complimenting the Premier for bringing forward the proposals initiated by the late Government, he drew attention to the fact that in the House or two the "olive branch" of the Government was to be changed "the fiscal revolver," and that the Opposition was ready to give support to the Government in carrying out useful legislation would it but "behind the one subject which was to be the subject of the Government's attack, they would destroy all our useful legislation and begin again that reign of terror and strife in the midst of which these measures have been talked about for 20 years." His quiet appeal to the House was doubtless the cause of trade in the future, as in the past, was a strong and able and courageous champion in Mr. Ramsay.

What is not apparent to the unobservant is that the Government's understanding of the state of affairs stands the most important question of federation. The first glance it would seem that the bitterest enemy leading on one side the House and the next his enemy leading on the other, as the Government go so far as this, it is considered, is simply desperate. It is possibly such a conclusion would be and inconsistent. It fails to allow for the susceptibility of the political mind to the influence of the political conscience. It is a few weeks ago since that most detested enemy of Australian union, Mr. Drans, and his eloquent champion, Mr. Barron, discovered, on talking over the matter, that they were both of the same light as air. It was only a short time ago that Mr. Barron's priority to a policy of provincial protection, and their differences was altogether. Perhaps similarly admitted members of the party which has accepted leadership into line on this matter, it would appear that this practical adaptation has already happily passed. Mr. Ramsay was able to assure his party that the Government was not only opposed to the bill of the Convention. This is excellent as a beginning, may be found upon further and more consideration that he was never opposed this bill save upon a misapprehension of the subject of the bill. It is clear that the subject of federation was in a better position, never likely to be dealt with fairly upon merits, than with the leadership of opposite sides of the House in the matter. Under the circumstances it cannot at any rate be regarded as a party question. It is present as a great cause, and it is one which must certainly triumph in the

future, waiting only for an
 faithful, and a determined leader.
 it offers in return for this service
 greater prize yet won by any Aus-
 tralian statesman. It offers the glory—
 the glory of a nation's leader—
 like to use, but it is not too
 for the present occasion—of
 ing federation into reality, not
 New South Wales but for all the
 waiting now only for her decision
 to consent to initiate the work
 waits accomplishment is nothing
 the creation of the Australian nation
 in parochialism with which all
 mere parsimonious "shrivel,"
 Bazaar rolls into nothingness.
 Is here, the opportunity here is
 in this, How long will the man
 in?

In the Legislative Council of
 Mr. Sargant, new clauses in the
 Act Amendment Bill, giving
 to freeholders, have been
 without a division. This is the
 the action of the Legislative As-
 introducing the principle of one
 man, one vote. It is to be re-
 nise the principle of property rep-
 tation, though in an imperfect
 matic way, and the object of the
 was to strike this recognition.
 The Council has not only
 positive action by making the
 session of freehold property a
 tion entitling the holder to a
 normally in recognition of the
 thirteenth. As the Legislative
 Bazaar rolls into nothingness.
 except by pressure from its own
 and therefore if the Legislative
 should refuse to accept these amend-
 the result may be that the Coun-
 will remain unchanged. This
 shows that the House of Rep-
 there is interest in the inquiry
 Does the action of the Council
 mean? What would be the ex-
 of this dual freehold vote in
 sanction of the law? What
 vote means and be understood
 much difficulty. It is an exact
 right of every man to have exactly
 share of political influence as every
 man at the polls; and that is a
 freehold vote. But at such a
 vote.

The action of the Council may
 sidered as a protest against the
 dominating influence of the Trade
 Union vote. It is a protest against
 servient to which seems to have
 the most obvious explanation of
 the introduction of the bill by the Gov-
 It is also a protest against the
 that every man should have the same
 influence. It is a protest against the
 loafer and the sundowner, with-
 out industry, without character, with-
 out energy, without stake in the
 country, without stake in the
 should be placed on precisely
 same level, at the election of a
 citizen, as the citizen who is
 serving his country as a citizen,
 given hostages to fortune. The
 the Council is intelligible when
 this light, and will command
 party, not only in Victoria, but
 throughout the whole of the
 whole community and the cause
 and just legislation at heart. Be-
 sidered otherwise than as a protest
 some of the misleading cries of
 Mr. Henderson from the Opposition
 "The introduction of the bill by the Gov-
 defined principle or group of
 does it rest?

The Constitution in its stands re-
 property as an electoral qualification,
 imperfectly, but it is a principle
 out that that recognition, such
 would be, as a matter of principle,
 a fundamental change. But the in-
 of the dual freehold vote, altho
 would technically preserve the Coun-
 from the influence of the loafer
 and be neither a frank acknowl-
 of the principle of a property qual-
 nor a logical and symmetrical
 moving that principle effects. App-
 the dual freehold vote has even
 been a property qualification, or
 of representation, to use the general
 accepted term. Whether a desire
 of uniformity has been a cause,
 chief amongst other causes, we
 cannot say; but it is a argu-
 ment for the dual vote is the
 that that thrift ought to be re-
 and that the possession of a free-
 evidence of thrift. But the pos-
 a freehold is neither necessarily
 evidence of thrift, nor is the pos-
 equally good, or perhaps better,
 provided in various other ways.
 owner in view is simply to re-
 thrift, evidence of it should
 be accepted in whatever form
 been and the policy, what
 there in acknowledging such evi-
 a freehold, and ignoring it in
 a bank deposit of equal or higher
 If it were said that freeholds may
 easily be acquired by the loafer
 and that the object was to re-
 move the electoral influence of
 country freeholders, that would be
 gibable as a matter of policy; but
 of the mere recognition of thrift
 cover it. It is a principle of
 for centuries; but with the
 that those centuries have witness-
 the conditions of society, a
 distribution and exercise of political
 the mere possession of a freehold
 is not a sufficient qualification
 pounds of policy, in exactly the
 as it was in centuries gone by.

The thrift theory seems to be in
 a more popular form of asserting
 the principle of a property qualification,
 that description of the man
 been and probably will be
 dictated or repressed. But while
 freehold vote cannot be
 as an intelligible and fair recog-
 the value of thrift, neither can
 be regarded as a just or reason-
 able basis for the property-owner's
 special share of electoral power.
 It is that the recognition of the pos-
 session of a freehold as a qualifi-
 cation for the owner of it, carries with it al-
 though the suggestion that it is
 necessary to take into account in
 some and to some extent be
 into the calculation. If it is
 and just that the owner of a freehold
 £50 should, simply because he owns
 entitled to a freehold vote of £20,000,
 only a second vote? And why should
 owner of machinery used for manu-
 or of goods as his stock-in-trade
 value of £100,000, have no second
 notwithstanding
 that the claim
 one case might come within the
 of practical politics, but in the
 would lie outside. Such an answer
 need not be without force; but it
 help us towards the understand-
 of the principle.

It is a too common custom in
 of politics to proclaim in trumpet
 some great constitutional principle
 will admit of being cited in sup-
 port of some cause or movement, and

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...and inside members, both Government and Opposition, gathered in full session to witness the parliamentary debate on the new Bill. Members took their places strictly according to party lines. All the members of the Government benches, who were well-known to the public, were present. The late Mr. Deane, who was one of the most prominent members of the late Ministry, was present, and his presence was a great attraction. The Opposition benches were also well-filled. The debate was opened by Mr. Deane, who spoke for the Government. He said that the Bill was a necessary measure, and that it was the duty of the Government to introduce it. He then spoke for some time, and his speech was well-received. The Opposition then spoke, and the debate continued. The Bill was finally passed by a large majority.

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